



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE DEPORTS 120 ILLEGAL ALIENS FROM D.C. AREA

56 are criminals, including Child Molesters, Drug Convicts and a Murderer

WASHINGTON, DC — In the largest recorded deportation flight removal in the Washington, D.C. area, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detention and Removal Officers deported 120 citizens of Mexico back to their country this week.

“This is the largest recorded flight of deportees originating entirely from the Washington Field Office and departing from Dulles Int’l Airport,” said Field Office Director Mary Loiselle, who leads ICE’s removal efforts in the metropolitan area. “Criminal aliens have no right to be in the United States. They continue to commit violent crimes and terrorize our communities. We will not tolerate it. ICE will continue to target immigration violators, especially criminal aliens, as we work with our partners to restore integrity to the nation’s immigration system.”

Among the 120 deportees are 56 convicted criminals. Of those 56 aliens; 36 were convicted for violent offenses ranging from malicious wounding to manslaughter, 15 were convicted for drug related crimes, and six are classified as child sex predators with convictions ranging from child molestation to indecent liberties on a child under the age of 13. There are also four aliens believed to be members of violent gangs.

Tomas Valdez-Gonzalez, 32 who was convicted of manslaughter in El Monte, California, was among those removed this week. Valdez stabbed to death an individual associated with the Clanton Gang in California. During his arrest for attempting to re-enter into the U.S. illegally, ICE also discovered that Valdez had an extensive criminal history that includes arrests and convictions for weapons violations, property and vehicle offenses and threatening crime with intent to terrorize or dissuade his victim.

Others from the Washington, D.C. metro area deported this week include:

Gerardo Martinez-Alvarez, 23 was involved in the stabbing of a 14-year old during an altercation that took place a mall in Manassas, Virginia, in April. He was subsequently apprehended as part of a gang suppression operation.

Emilio Hernandez-Nunez, 28 convicted of unlawful wounding, involving and armed burglary, assault and battery, and obstructing justice. Hernandez was also previously convicted of malicious damage and discharging a firearm at an occupied building.

Javier Rubio-Martinez, 18, was convicted in March of both carnal knowledge of a minor between the age of 13 and 15 years of age and forgery of certificate of Title. For those convictions, Rubio served three years in prison.

Andreas Quiroga-Sanchez, 30 was convicted of an aggravated felony, Indecent Liberties on a child under the age of 13 years of age. The victim was his step-daughter. He was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

The removal of Rubio-Martinez and Quiroga-Sanchez are part of Operation Predator, a nationwide ICE initiative designed to protect children from sexual predators, including those who travel overseas for sex with minors, internet child pornographers, criminal alien sex offenders and child sex traffickers. Since Operation Predator was launched nationwide in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 5,750 sexual predators and deported more than 2,100 foreign nationals.

The removal of criminal and other illegal aliens from the United States reached record levels in fiscal year 2004 with more that 160,000 aliens removed. In the D.C. area last year, ICE removed 1,391 aliens of which 819 were criminal aliens.

All of the deportees this week were transported to Mexico on U.S. government aircraft operated by the U.S. Marshal Service, and called the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transporting System (JPATS). JPATS is one of the largest transporters of prisoners in the world and handles hundreds of requests every day to move prisoners and criminal aliens nationally and internationally. There is an automatic 10-year bar against deported aliens from legally re-entering the U.S.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.